

*Fulica americana*.—Although not an uncommon migrant, especially in autumn, this familiar bird was particularly abundant here from September 29 to November 14, 1892.

*Aquila chrysaëtos*.—A specimen of this Eagle was taken at Essex, some twenty miles south of Portland, Nov. 1, 1892, and is in my cabinet. It was captured alive.

*Falco sparverius*.—The Sparrow Hawk, always considered a rare resident in this vicinity, was found in unusual numbers during the winter of 1892-93. They could be seen nearly every day. On the 4th of February I saw one in Hartford considerate enough to capture an English Sparrow.

*Strix pratincola*.—A female Barn Owl was shot at Leesville, a dozen miles south of this place, June 11, 1891, and brought to me alive. This is the first instance known of the bird's occurrence in this vicinity. Six are on record from different sections of the State.

*Asio wilsonianus*.—In many years' collecting in this vicinity I have never known the Long-eared Owl so numerous as during the autumn of 1892. They were apparently migrating from the first week in October until early in December.

*Coccothraustes vespertinus*.—Recently, when examining the collection of birds made by Mr. H. E. Rich, of East Hampton, Conn. (nine miles east of Portland), I saw an adult male of the Evening Grosbeak which was killed in that vicinity March 2, 1890. Mr. Rich informed me that there were twelve or fourteen in the flock, and that several Pine Grosbeaks were with them. The other Evening Grosbeaks reported from this State were taken at Portland, March 6, and Gaylordsville, March 10, of the same year, during the remarkable irruption of the species at that time. ('Forest and Stream,' XXXIV, March 27, 1890, 187;—Auk, VII, April, 1890, 211.)

*Melospiza lincolni*.—A male of this rare Sparrow, now in my collection, was shot here September 21, 1892, by Mr. W. E. Treat.

*Zonotrichia leucophrys*.—These migrating Sparrows were abundant here on the 12th of October, 1892. I have never known them to visit us in such numbers before.

*Sitta canadensis*.—An unusual flight of the Red-breasted Nuthatch was observed here from Sept. 27 to Oct. 23, 1892, the height of the migration being about the middle of October. They were quite common in other sections of the State during the same period.—JNO. H. SAGE, *Portland, Conn.*

**Winter Birds in Connecticut.**—On Dec. 15, 1892, I had a fine specimen of *Rallus elegans* brought to me in the flesh to be mounted. The bird is a male in fine plumage and was shot on the salt marshes at Milford, Connecticut, about nine miles from here. On Jan. 18, 1893, a freshly killed specimen of the Rose-breasted Grosbeak was brought in. The bird was shot at Southington in the central part of the State, and was a male, and was apparently in good condition. While skinning it I discovered that the

left tibia had been broken and healed again quite recently. The plumage was that of the young male as found here during the spring migrations. On January 19 I purchased a fine male of the Great Gray Owl from a farmer who had shot it the day before at North Haven. The Owl was still alive.—A. H. VERRILL, *New Haven, Connecticut*.

Notes on *Helminthophila chrysoptera*, *pinus*, *leucobronchialis* and *lawrencei* in Connecticut.—The brief notes herein given are from Portland, a locality which seems a favorite resort for these interesting and perplexing Warblers.

*Helminthophila chrysoptera* is a not uncommon summer resident, arriving as early as the 8th of May and frequenting dense swamps and swampy woodland. It is partial to hickory, oak and buttonwood trees, and when migrating in the spring may be found on high scrubby ground and in old pastures and orchards. The past season (1892) a male was captured in my door-yard—an unusual place, as it is not the custom of this Warbler to visit the thickly settled portions of the village.

To hunt this bird successfully it is necessary to become familiar with the odd song. Did it not in this manner reveal its identity, it would be almost impossible to find it when perched among the young leaves on a buttonwood or hickory tree.

My series of skins of this species, taken here during the past eighteen years, shows many odd variations.

A nest containing four fresh eggs was taken June 4, 1892. It was on the ground in a swampy spot and under a skunk cabbage (*Symplocarpus fœtidus*). The eggs are pure white, evidently an abnormal set. The female was secured as she flew from the nest. The male was also seen. It had the typical black throat. I believe the eggs of this Warbler have not been recorded from the State before.

In other sections of Connecticut *H. chrysoptera* is considered rare. At Saybrook, New Haven, Bridgeport and Seymour they are seldom seen. Mr. Willard E. Treat, an experienced collector living at East Hartford, Conn., (fifteen miles north of this place) tells me that he has never found there any of the Warblers mentioned in this article.

The interbreeding of *chrysoptera* and *pinus*, at Portland, was noted in 'The Auk' (Vol. VI, July, 1889).

*Helminthophila pinus* comes to us the first week in May, and is a regular, but rare, summer resident. While here it does not wander far from a swampy spot grown up with alders, a few maples and an occasional oak and elm. A nest with four eggs, and one of *Molothrus ater*, was taken May 31, 1887.

Mr. Brewster's long-named Warbler, *Helminthophila leucobronchialis*, would seem to be a regular summer visitant, as we have taken it now for seven successive years. It appears by May 10, and is in full song until the middle of June.